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TELEGRAM

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 EA-10 DQDE-00
H-01 NEA-06 NSC-05 NSAE-00 HA-06 L-03 PM-09
PA-01 SMS-01 SAL-01 SP-02 SPRS-02 /085.W
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P 121333Z AUG 81
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5798
INFO AMCONSUL Leningrad
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11257

E.O. 12065: GDS 8/12/87 (HURWITZ, EDWARD) OR-P
TAGS: PEPR, UR, AF, CH, PBOR
SUBJECT: MOSCOW REJECTS CHINESE PROTEST ON
- SOVIET-AFGHAN BOUNDARY TREATY

REF: BEIJING 7689

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. THE SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS
ISSUED A STATEMENT REJECTING BEIJING'S JULY 22
PROTEST OF THE RECENTLY SIGNED SOVIET-AFGHAN
BOUNDARY TREATY AS WITHOUT "LEGAL OR FACTUAL
FOUNDATION." LIKE THE CHINESE PROTEST (REFTEL),
THE SOVIET STATEMENT IS CLEARLY FOR THE RECORD.
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3. THE SOVIET STATEMENT, WHICH WAS READ ON THE EVENING TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAM VREMYA AUGUST 11 AND PUBLISHED IN PRAVDA AUGUST 12, JUSTIFIES ITS REJECTION ON TWO GROUNDS. FIRST, THE TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN THE SOVIET-AFGHAN TREATY ARE SAID TO "CONCERN ONLY THE USSR AND THE DRA AND NO ONE ELSE." AND SECOND, CHINA'S CLAIM THAT THERE IS A "DISPUTED REGION" ALONG THE SOVIET-CHINESE BORDER IN THE PAMIRS IS BASELESS SINCE THE TWO COUNTRIES FIXED THE BORDER ALONG THE SARYKOL'SKIY RIDGE IN AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES IN 1894. "THIS LINE AND NO OTHER," THE STATEMENT READS, "EXISTS TO THE PRESENT."

4. THE MFA STATEMENT CALLS THE "PROVOCATIVE" CHINESE PROTEST OF THE TREATY AN EXAMPLE OF BEIJING'S "GREAT POWER" STRIVINGS AND AN ATTEMPT "WITH THE HELP OF THE FALSIFICATION OF HISTORY" TO PROP UP ITS TERRITORIAL CLAIMS TO SOVIET LAND. THE STATEMENT CONCLUDES WITH A BOAST THAT THE CHINESE PROTEST "CANNOT AND WILL NOT HAVE ANY MEANING OR CONSEQUENCES."
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